

PASTOR'S LETTER MARCH, 2021

Dear Aldersgate family,

We are excited to tell you that we will be reopening for in-person worship in the sanctuary with overflow in the Fellowship Hall by video, March 14, 2021, at 9:30 am. Everyone is expected to wear masks and practice social distancing, whether or not you have received your vaccination. These will be abbreviated in-person worship services (30 minutes) with no singing and there will be no bulletins.



We welcome all who worship, whether in-person or online (Video Sermons), and we respect your choices. Whatever your choice may be, please stay safe and healthy. This should be your first priority.

Michael Osterholm, director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy believes the next 6-14 weeks could be the darkest weeks of the pandemic because of the new variants and people letting their guard down. So, don't let your guard down and be safe, we still have a long way to go until everything will be somewhat normal.

For those who have received their first vaccination, please remember that you need to have both doses and wait two weeks after the second dose for it to achieve the highest level of protection.

Here are some points as you prepare for in-person worship:

- If you are medically at risk or concerned about other family members who could be affected, we recommend caution and perhaps viewing the video sermons on our Webpage, FaceBook, or on YouTube.
- Masks are required for all persons ages 2 and older while on church property (indoors and outdoors). Properly wear your mask over your nose and mouth.
- Please remember that we are following CDC guidelines. Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds. Disinfect things you touch, and do not touch what you do not have to. Avoid touching your face. Practice good etiquette when coughing/sneezing.
- There will be no paper bulletins or hymnals.
- Practice social distancing while on church property (maintain a 6-foot separation from any people not in your immediate household).
- The sanctuary, narthex, bathrooms, and hallway will be sanitized once a week.
- Please keep all personal items, including your coat, with you in the sanctuary.
- Please do not go into the basement or offices.
- If you are feeling sick or have a high temperature, please stay home. If you are tested positive for Covid-19, please report it to the church office.
- Expect to have your temperature taken as you enter the door to worship.
- Clergy and worship leaders will wear masks at all times when not speaking behind a microphone.
- Offering plates will not be passed during in-person worship. Instead, please drop your offering envelope in the offering plates in the narthex.
- There will be no fellowship time on-site at this time.

Once again, we are so happy to be able to worship again in-person, however, we understand that not all members will feel comfortable attending at this time. We ask that you please exercise grace toward our brothers and sisters whose decisions differ from your own.

May the roads rise to meet you,
Brett